

CRITERIA FOR PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Antidepressant Medications – Safe Use for All Ages

BILLING CODE TYPE For drug coverage and provider type information, see the [KMAP Reference Codes webpage](#).

MANUAL GUIDELINES Prior authorization will be required for all current and future dose forms available of the medications below:

Amitriptyline (Elavil®)	Levomilnacipran (Fetzima®)
Amoxapine	Maprotiline
Bupropion (Forfivo® XL, Wellbutrin®, Wellbutrin® SR, Wellbutrin® XL)	Milnacipran (Savella®)
Citalopram (Celexa®)	Nefazodone
Clomipramine (Anafranil®)	Nortriptyline (Pamelor®)
Desipramine (Norpramin®)	Olanzapine/Fluoxetine (Symbyax®)
Desvenlafaxine (Khedezla®, Pristiq®)	Paroxetine (Paxil®, Paxil CR®, Pexeva®)
Doxepin (Sinequan®)	Phenelzine (Nardil®)
Duloxetine (Cymbalta®, Drizalma Sprinkle™)	Protriptyline (Vivactil®)
Escitalopram (Lexapro®)	Selegiline (Emsam®)
Esketamine (Spravato®)	Sertraline (Zoloft®)
Fluoxetine (Prozac®, Prozac Weekly®)	Tranylcypromine (Parnate®)
Fluvoxamine (Luvox®, Luvox CR®)	Trimipramine (Surmontil®)
Imipramine (Tofranil®, Tofranil® PM)	Venlafaxine (Effexor®, Effexor XR®)
Isocarboxazid (Marplan®)	Vilazodone (Viibryd®)
	Vortioxetine (Trintellix®)

CRITERIA FOR PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FOR ANTIDEPRESSANTS MEDICATIONS:

- For all agents listed, the preferred PDL drug, if applicable, which covers this indication, is required unless the patient meets the non-preferred PDL PA criteria.
- MULTIPLE CONCURRENT USE:
 - Each of the following criteria for multiple concurrent use will require prior authorization:
 - For patients **< 13 years of age**, two or more different antidepressants used concurrently for greater than 60 days
 - For patients **≥ 13 years of age**, three or more different antidepressants used concurrently for greater than 60 days
 - Two or more different selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) used concurrently for greater than 60 days (defined in table 1)
 - Two or more different serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) used concurrently for greater than 60 days (defined in table 2)
 - Two or more different tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs) used concurrently for greater than 60 days (defined in table 3)

DRAFT PA Criteria

- Prior authorization will require written peer-to-peer consult with health plan psychiatrist, medical director, or pharmacy director for approval, followed by a verbal peer-to-peer if unable to approve written request.

LENGTH OF APPROVAL: 12 months

RENEWAL CRITERIA: Patient is stable and has been seen in the past year.

CRITERIA FOR PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FOR ESKETAMINE (SPRAVATO™) NASAL SPRAY:

- Age ≥ 18 years of age.⁴⁷
- Patient must have a diagnosis of treatment-resistant depression, including ALL of the following:
 - DSM-5 criteria for major depressive disorder.
 - Inadequate response (in the current episode) to at least 2-3 different antidepressants (listed in Tables 1-4) despite therapeutic dose and 6 weeks¹ duration of each medication.
- ~~Patient must be started on a new oral antidepressant in conjunction with esketamine. Patient must be maintained on antidepressant(s) while on therapy with Spravato.~~
- Patient must have an adequate trial (at least 4 weeks) of at least ONE of the following augmentation therapies, or a contraindication to all therapies listed in Table 5:¹
 - Addition of a second-generation antipsychotic listed in Table 5 to the current regimen.
 - Addition or change in medication therapy to a fixed-dose combination product of olanzapine/fluoxetine.
- Prescriber must provide baseline Montgomery-Asberg Depression Rating Scale (MADRS) or Hamilton Depression scale (HAM-D) or Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) before initial treatment with intranasal esketamine.
 - Patient must have severe depression as defined by MADRS or HAM-D or the PHQ-9. See Table 6 below.
- ~~Prescriber must provide baseline Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) before initial treatment AND at each subsequent visit for the treatment with intranasal esketamine. (only if the prescriber intends to monitor treatment response with the PHQ-9).~~⁶
- Patient, provider, and provider's staff must be registered, educated, and be in good standing with the associated REMS program.
- Dose does not exceed 168mg (6 nasal spray devices) per week for induction (initial 4 weeks).⁴⁷
- Dose does not exceed 84mg (3 nasal spray devices) per week for maintenance (beyond initial 4 weeks).⁴⁷
- Patient must be screened for active/risk for substance use disorder.
- Prescriber has addressed the appropriateness of psychotherapy with the patient.

LENGTH OF INITIAL APPROVAL: 6 months

RENEWAL CRITERIA:

- Prescriber must provide the following response measure(s).
 - Stable response was maintained, defined as MADRS or HAM-D or PHQ-9 average decrease ≥50% from baseline, with a minimum of 3 assessments with the same tool, for the majority of the assessments since the most recent approval.
- Patient has < 2 relapses since the most recent approval. A relapse is defined as hospitalization or overnight observation for worsening depression.
- Patient must be screened for active/risk for substance use disorder.
- Dose does not exceed 84mg (3 nasal spray devices) per week for maintenance.⁴⁷

LENGTH OF APPROVAL FOR RENEWAL: 12 months

TABLE 1. SELECTIVE SEROTONIN REUPTAKE INHIBITORS (SSRIs)

SELECTIVE SEROTONIN REUPTAKE INHIBITORS (SSRIs)
Citalopram (Celexa®)
Escitalopram (Lexapro®)
Fluoxetine (Prozac®, Prozac Weekly®)
Fluvoxamine (Luvox®, Luvox CR®)
Paroxetine (Paxil®, Paxil CR®, Pexeva®)
Sertraline (Zoloft®)
Vilazodone (Viibryd®)*
Vortioxetine (Trintellix®)**

*Vilazodone also has partial agonistic 5-HT_{1A} activity

**Vortioxetine also has agonistic 5-HT_{1A} and antagonistic 5-HT₃ activity

TABLE 2. SEROTONIN-NOREPINEPHRINE REUPTAKE INHIBITORS (SNRIs)

SEROTONIN-NOREPINEPHRINE REUPTAKE INHIBITORS (SNRIs)
Desvenlafaxine (Khedezla®, Pristiq®)
Duloxetine (Cymbalta®, Drizalma Sprinkle™)
Levomilnacipran (Fetzima®)
Milnacipran (Savella®)
Venlafaxine (Effexor®, Effexor XR®)

TABLE 3. TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS (TCAs)

TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS (TCAs)
Amitriptyline (Elavil®)
Amoxapine
Clomipramine (Anafranil®)
Desipramine (Norpramin®)
Doxepin (Sinequan®)
Imipramine (Tofranil®)
Imipramine Pamoate (Tofranil® PM)
Nortriptyline (Pamelor®)
Protriptyline (Vivactil®)
Trimipramine (Surmontil®)
TETRACYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS
Maprotiline

TABLE 4. OTHER ANTIDEPRESSANTS

DOPAMINE NOREPINEPHRINE REUPTAKE INHIBITORS
Bupropion (Forfivo® XL, Wellbutrin®, Wellbutrin® SR, Wellbutrin® XL)
SEROTONIN MODULATORS
Nefazodone (Serzone)
Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs)
Phenelzine (Nardil®)
Tranylcypromine (Parnate®)
Isocarboxazid (Marplan)
Selegiline transdermal system (Emsam®)

TABLE 5. AUGMENTATION THERAPIES^{1,5-8-11}

SECOND-GENERATION ANTI-PSYCHOTICS (SGAs)
Aripiprazole (Abilify®)
Brexipiprazole (Rexulti®)
Olanzapine/fluoxetine (Symbyax®) (fixed combination product)
Quetiapine Extended Release (Seroquel XR®)

TABLE 6. CUTOFFS FOR SEVERE DEPRESSION³⁻⁴

RATING SCALE	CUTOFF SCORE FOR SEVERE DEPRESSION
MADRS	≥ 35
HAM-D	≥ 19
PHQ-9	≥ 20

Notes:

- Mirtazapine, and trazodone are FDA-indicated for depression, but are not listed because they are primarily used for other indications.

References:

1. Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Patients with Major Depressive Disorder, Third Edition. American Psychiatric Association, October 2010. Available at <https://psychiatryonline.org/guidelines>. Accessed 7/24/19.
2. Psychotropic Medication Utilization Parameters for Children and Youth In ~~Foster Care~~ [Texas Public Behavioral Health \(5th-6th Version\)](#). ~~Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy~~ [The Parameters Workgroup of the Psychiatric Executive Formulary Committee, Health and Specialty Care Division, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, March 2016-June 2019 \(updated July 2016\)](#). Available at https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Medical_Services/Psychotropic_Medications.aspx ~~<http://texaschildrenscommission.gov/reports-and-resources/>~~. Accessed 8/6/19 10/23/19.
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3. Grade Scores of the Montgomery-Asberg Depression and the Clinical Anxiety Scales. *Br J Psychiatry* 1986; 148:599-601. Available at <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/the-british-journal-of-psychiatry/article/grade-scores-of-the-montgomeryasberg-depression-and-the-clinical-anxiety-scales/E03CC2A39EEE29F47DAAE56A48B4EA60>. Accessed 9/17/19.
4. Severity classification on the Hamilton depression rating scale. *J Affect Disord* 2013; 150(2):384-8. Available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0165032713003017?via%3DiHub>. Accessed on 9/17/19.
5. Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ9). Available at <https://www.integration.samhsa.gov/clinical-practice/screening-tools>. Accessed 10/21/19.
6. Zimmerman, M. Using the 9-item Patient Health Questionnaire to Screen for and Monitor Depression. *JAMA* October 2019. [Epub ahead of print]. Available at <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2753532>. Accessed on 10/22/19.
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- 5-8. Abilify (aripiprazole) [package insert]. Rockville, MD: Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc.; February 2017.
- 6-9. Rexulti (brexipiprazole) [package insert]. Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc.; February 2018.
- 7-10. Symbyax (olanzapine/fluoxetine) [package insert]. Indianapolis, IN: Lilly USA, LLC; March 2018.
- 8-11. Seroquel XR (quetiapine) [package insert]. Wilmington, DE: AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP; November 2018.

DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW COMMITTEE CHAIR

PHARMACY PROGRAM MANAGER
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCE
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

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